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the normals, we have the following values of observation-computation.

δ R.A.	+2″·3	−2″·3	−1″·8	−0″·8	−3″·1	+4″·8	+3″·8	−15″·8
Dec.	+3·6	−0·3	−3·9	−0·4	+1·9	+2·6	+3·4	+ 5·4

The probable error of one of the constants of the equations of condition of the weight 1 is found 3″·18, and on the whole the observations seem satisfactorily represented.

The ecliptic elements are finally:—

$$T = \text{July } 31^{\text{d}}{\cdot}0952 = \text{July } 31^{\text{d}}\ 2^{\text{h}}\ 17^{\text{m}}$$

$$☊ = 101^\circ\ 30'\ 11''$$

$$\pi = 160\ 38\ 50$$

$$i = 74\ 12\ 23$$

$$\log q = 9{\cdot}9550614$$

$$e = 0{\cdot}9979$$

Brooks's Comet. By J. I. Plummer, M.A.

Some recent observations which I have made of the two portions of Brooks's Comet seem to point to even greater interest than the actual division of the comet may have caused. The only fragment of the main body which I have been able to see at Orwell Park is the intermediate one of the three illustrated in the *Astronomische Nachrichten*, No. 2922, from the Vienna observations. During the month of September I succeeded in making eight sets of comparisons between the main body and this fragment which show a gradual increase in the distance both in R.A. and declination, but the rate of movement of separation was distinctly slower than in the previous month. Later I succeeded in making four similar sets of comparisons between October 17 and October 24, at which times I found that the fragment had greatly diminished in lustre relatively to the main comet, and also that the differences of R.A. and declination had certainly lessened, indicating an actual motion of approach. I should be very glad to have this fact verified by other observers, and as it appears probable that after the present bright moonlight the light will be still less, I would suggest that the matter is of sufficient interest to induce the possessors of large telescopes to pay attention to this comet without delay. I would add that it would appear that the period at which the greatest divergence took place is that of perihelion passage, i.e. September 26. The observations to which I have referred will be published in due course.

1889, *November* 8.

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Observations of Comet e 1889 *(Davidson), made at the Melbourne Observatory with the South Equatorial and Dark-field Micrometer. Observer : P. Baracchi.*

(*Communicated by R. L. J. Ellery, F.R.S., Government Astronomer.*)

Date.	Melbourne Mean Time.	Comet – Star. Δα	Comet – Star. ΔN.P.D.	No. of Meas.	Comet Apparent. α	Log (p×Δ).	Comet Apparent N.P.D.	Log (p×Δ).	Red. to App. Place.		Star α 1889·0.	Star. N.P.D. 1889·0.	
1889	h m s	m s	′ ″		h m s		° ′ ″		s	″	h m s	° ′ ″	
July 23	8 54 43·2	+5 23·88	−15 4·0	3	12 46 10·98	+9·698	122 27 35·7	+0·467	+0·37	+11·2	12 40 46·73	122 42 28·48	(*a*)
25	9 53 16·7	−3 15·39	− 2 27·9	1	13 11 9·06	+9·704	116 47 15·0	+0·603	+0·58	+ 9·0	13 14 23·87	116 49 33·9	(*b*)
26	11 30 36·0	+8 6·10	− 8 58·8	2	13 23 8·26	+9·708	113 44 25·9	+0·726	+0·51	+ 8·0	13 15 1·65	113 53 16·7	(*c*)
29	9 33 51·8	+2 38·93	− 4 19·9	5	13 52 15·94	+9·637	105 31 36·7	+0·645	+0·71	+ 4·5	13 49 36·30	105 35 52·1	(*d*)
29	9 52 49·6	−6 49·39	−18 48·2	1	13 52 22·56	+9·654	105 29 30·2	+0·659	+0·77	+ 4·3	13 59 11·18	105 48 14·1	(*e*)
30	7 21 31·6	−13 13·74	− 6 47·4	3	14 0 19·23	+9·363	103 5 6·7	+0·595	+0·84	+ 3·2	14 13 32·13	103 11 50·9	(*f*)
Aug. 1	9 53 18·1	+1 7·19	+ 9 40·1	7	14 17 18·08	+9·631	97 44 39·8	+0·700	+0·81	+ 1·0	14 16 10·08	97 34 58·7	(*g*)
2	9 16 26·1	+2 51·66	−10 13·7	5	14 24 27·24	+9·584	95 26 56·7	+0·704	+0·81	+ 0·2	14 21 34·77	95 37 10·2	(*h*)
2	10 9 48·9	−0 30·23	+ 3 25·1	7	14 24 43·35	+9·640	95 21 56·3	+0·716	+0·83	0·0	14 25 12·75	95 18 31·2	(*i*)
18	6 59 46·9	+0 41·29	+ 2 17·7	10	15 40 21·69	+9·155	72 25 16·4	+0·861	+0·88	− 9·7	15 39 39·52	72 23 8·4	(*j*)

Authorities.—(*a*) Stone 7058. (*b*) $\frac{1}{3}\left(\text{Yarnall } 5515 + 2 \text{ Gould } \frac{\text{xiii.}}{528}\right)$ Stone 7314. (*d*) $\frac{1}{4}$ (Lal. 25596+3 [O. A. 13247]). (*e*) Yarnall 5816. (*f*) Yarnall 5911. (*g*) Armagh 1668. (*h*) $\frac{1}{2}$ (Gr. 7 year Cat. 1864+Grant 3577). (*i*) Yarnall 5990. (*j*) 26 *Serpentis*. Melbourne Transit Circle.

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